



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/817,659	03/26/2001	Shekhar Y. Borkar	42390P10820	9789

8791 7590 09/29/2003

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

EXAMINER

VO, TIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2189

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

11

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/817,659

Applicant(s)

BORKAR ET AL.

Examiner

Tim T. Vo

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2189

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

This application has been examined. Claims 1-28 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 8-12, 17-23 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § **102(b)** as being anticipated by "Command Response Bus System With Inherent Fault-Isolation Features" by IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, August 1986 referred hereinafter "IBM".

As for claim 1, IBM teaches a system comprising:

a first group of integrated circuits connected in a truncated ring fashion (see figure 2, and page 2 refers integrated circuit are UARTs. Figure 2 discloses the integrated circuit UARTs are connecting in a ring topology), wherein the truncated ring includes a truncated region to allow for additional integrated circuits to be added to the ring (see page 2 refers the system has advantages in that data, available to all terminals directly from the common bus, can be added or removed without altering bus network structure).

As for claim 2, IBM teaches the truncated ring uses point to point signaling (see figure 2 and page 2 refers to multipoint point command response serial bus architecture is commonly implemented by microprocessor chip).

As for claims 3, 12 and 21-22, IBM teaches the truncated ring is a multidimensional ring (see figure 2).

As for claims 8, 17 and 28, IBM teaches one of the integrated circuits acts as a master controller for the other integrated circuits (see figure 5 and pages 5-6 refers to one of the microprocessor interface 8 acts as a master to control data path flow).

As for claims 9 and 18, IBM teaches the integrated circuits use differential signaling (see figure 1 which refers to data flow between integrated circuits via a common bus).

As for claims 10 and 19, IBM teaches the integrated circuits use differential signaling (see pages 5-6 which refers to data flow between integrated circuits).

As for claim 11, IBM teaches a system comprising:

a group of integrated circuits connected in a pseudo ring fashion (see figure 2, wherein page 2 refers integrated circuits UARTs are connecting in a ring topology), wherein the pseudo ring is created by data flow of bi-directional signaling between the integrated circuits (see pages 3-7 which refer to data flows bi-directional).

As for claim 20, IBM teaches a system comprising:

a group of integrated circuits connected in a pseudo differential arrangement in which multiple conductors carrying signals share a common reference signal conductor

Art Unit: 2189

(see figure 1, page 2 refers wherein the integrated circuits UARTs are connecting to each other through a common bus).

As for claim 23, IBM teaches wherein some of the signal carrying conductors have one reference signal conductor and others of the signal carrying conductors have another reference signal conductor (see figures 2-4 and pages 3-4 refers to drivers signaling conductor in multi directional).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-7, 13-16 and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM.

As for claims 4-7, 13-16 and 24-27, IBM does not expressly teach terminator resistor in packaging of its die. The terminator resistor includes in a packaging is well known and expected in the art which is admitted by the applicants (see "Prior Art" figures 1-3 of the current invention). It would have been obvious to include terminator resistor to the IBM's because the terminator resistor is well known to providing impedance matching and preventing signal reflection.

Conclusion

Art Unit: 2189

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tim T. Vo whose telephone number is 703-308-5862.

The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2100.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Vo', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Tim T. Vo
Examiner
Art Unit 2189

T.V
9/20/03